

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1-59. (Canceled)

1 60-65. (Canceled)

1 66. (Currently Amended) A hardware upgrade for a set top terminal for use with a
2 television program delivery system with menu selection of programs, the set top terminal
3 having a microprocessor and microprocessor instructions for prompting generation of menus,
4 the hardware upgrade comprising:

5 an upgrade interface coupling to the set top terminal, the interface configured for
6 coupling to an expansion card interface of a set top terminal including an interface signal
7 path for providing communication communicating with a microprocessor of the set top
8 terminal for routing input provided by the microprocessor of the set top terminal and
9 providing data to the microprocessor of the set top terminal; and

10 a hardware upgrade microprocessor, coupled to the upgrade interface signal path, the
11 hardware upgrade microprocessor ~~being directly connected to~~ configured for communicating
12 with the microprocessor of the set top terminal [[by]] through the upgrade interface signal
13 path when the hardware upgrade is inserted into a card receiving slot;

14 ~~memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data therein;~~
15 ~~and~~

16 ~~processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, the hardware~~
17 ~~upgrade microprocessor accessing the memory and controlling the processing circuitry to~~
18 ~~cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top terminal via the~~
19 ~~interface signal path~~

20 wherein the hardware upgrade microprocessor provides enhanced functions to the set
21 top terminal through communication with the set top terminal using the upgrade interface.

1 67. (Currently Amended) The hardware upgrade of claim 66 [[,]] further
2 comprising memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data
3 therein and processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, wherein
4 the hardware upgrade microprocessor accesses the memory and controls the processing
5 circuitry to cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top
6 terminal via the upgrade interface and wherein the processing circuitry includes a hardware
7 upgrade modem for providing communication between the hardware upgrade and one or
8 more headends.

1 68. (Previously Presented) The hardware upgrade of claim 67, wherein the
2 processing circuitry includes a modulator and demodulator to add a data modulation and
3 demodulation function to the set top terminal such that data may be retrieved by the modem
4 of the hardware upgrade from the one or more headends and stored in the memory of the
5 hardware upgrade.

1 69. (Previously Presented) The hardware upgrade of claim 67, wherein the
2 modem of the hardware upgrade retrieves information from an interactive service by
3 accessing an on-line database enabling the set top terminal to engage in transactions using
4 two-way communications over the modem of the hardware upgrade with the interactive
5 service via submenus provided by the hardware upgrade microprocessor as an overlay to a
6 program displayed by the microprocessor of the set top terminal.

1 70. (Currently Amended) The hardware upgrade of claim 66, wherein the upgrade
2 interface is a card insertable interface enabling insertion into a card receiving slot of the set
3 top terminal,

1 71. (Currently Amended) The hardware upgrade of claim [[66]] 67, wherein the
2 modem of the hardware upgrade is capable of communicating with the interactive service
3 outside of the television program delivery system.

1 72. (Previously Presented) The hardware upgrade of claim 71, wherein the
2 interactive service is selected from a group consisting of home shopping, airline reservations,
3 news, financial information, classified advertisements, home banking, and interactive
4 teletext.

1 73. (Currently Amended) A set top terminal for use with a television program
2 delivery system with menu selection of programs, the set top terminal having a
3 microprocessor and microprocessor instructions for prompting generation of menus and
4 comprising:
5 a receiver adapted to receive programs; and
6 a first hardware upgrade comprising:
7 an upgrade interface coupling to the set top terminal, the interface configured
8 for coupling to an expansion card interface of a set top terminal including an interface signal
9 path for providing communication communicating with a microprocessor of the set top
10 terminal ~~for routing input provided by the microprocessor of the set top terminal and~~
11 providing data to the ~~microprocessor of the set top terminal; and~~
12 a hardware upgrade microprocessor, coupled to the upgrade interface signal
13 ~~path, the hardware upgrade microprocessor being directly connected to~~ configured for
14 communicating with the microprocessor of the set top terminal [[by]] through the upgrade
15 interface ~~signal path when the hardware upgrade is inserted into a card receiving slot;~~
16 memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data
17 ~~therein; and~~
18 ~~processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, the~~
19 ~~hardware upgrade microprocessor accessing the memory and controlling the processing~~
20 ~~circuitry to cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top~~
21 terminal ~~via the interface signal path~~

22 wherein the hardware upgrade microprocessor provides enhanced functions to
23 the set top terminal through communication with the set top terminal using the upgrade
24 interface.

1 74. (Currently Amended) The set top terminal of claim 73 [[,]] further
2 comprising memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data
3 therein and processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, wherein
4 the hardware upgrade microprocessor accesses the memory and controls the processing
5 circuitry to cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top
6 terminal via the upgrade interface and wherein the processing circuitry includes a hardware
7 upgrade modem for providing communication between the hardware upgrade and one or
8 more headends.

1 75. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 74, wherein the
2 processing circuitry includes a modulator and demodulator to add a data modulation and
3 demodulation function to the set top terminal such that data may be retrieved by the modem
4 of the hardware upgrade from the one or more headends and stored in the memory of the
5 hardware upgrade.

1 76. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 74, wherein the
2 modem of the hardware upgrade retrieves information from an interactive service by
3 accessing an on-line database enabling the set top terminal to engage in transactions using
4 two-way communications over the modem of the hardware upgrade with the interactive
5 service via submenus provided by the hardware upgrade microprocessor as an overlay to a
6 program displayed by the microprocessor of the set top terminal.

1 77. (Currently Amended) The set top terminal of claim 73, wherein the upgrade
2 interface is a card insertable interface enabling insertion into a card receiving slot of the set
3 top terminal,

1 78. (Currently Amended) The set top terminal of claim [[73]] 74, wherein the
2 modem of the hardware upgrade is capable of communicating with the interactive service
3 outside of the television program delivery system.

1 79. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 78, wherein the
2 interactive service is selected from a group consisting of home shopping, airline reservations,
3 news, financial information, classified advertisements, home banking, and interactive
4 teletext.

1 80. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 73, wherein the
2 terminal is an HDN terminal.

1 81. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 73 further
2 comprising:
3 one or more additional hardware upgrades connected to the terminal.

1 82. (Previously Presented) The set top terminal of claim 81, wherein at
2 least one of the one or more additional hardware upgrades is selected from the group
3 consisting of an audio program reception hardware upgrade, an interactive hardware upgrade
4 that receives interactive subscriber input and produces interactive output, and a storage
5 hardware upgrade.

1 83. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
2 a television program delivery system adapted to deliver television program signals;
3 and
4 a set top terminal having a microprocessor and microprocessor instructions for
5 prompting generation of menus and comprising:
6 a receiver adapted to receive at least some of the television program signals; and
7 a hardware upgrade comprising:
8 an upgrade interface coupling to the set top terminal, the interface configured
9 for coupling to an expansion card interface of a set top terminal including an interface signal
10 path for providing communication communicating with a microprocessor of the set top
11 terminal for routing input provided by the microprocessor of the set top terminal and
12 providing data to the microprocessor of the set top terminal; and
13 a hardware upgrade microprocessor, coupled to the upgrade interface signal
14 path, the hardware upgrade microprocessor being directly connected to configured for
15 communicating with the microprocessor of the set top terminal [[by]] through the upgrade
16 interface signal path when the hardware upgrade is inserted into a card receiving slot;
17 memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data
18 therein; and
19 processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, the
20 hardware upgrade microprocessor accessing the memory and controlling the processing
21 circuitry to cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top
22 terminal via the interface signal path

23 wherein the hardware upgrade microprocessor provides enhanced functions to
24 the set top terminal through communication with the set top terminal using the upgrade
25 interface.

1 84. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 83 [[,]] further comprising
2 memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, for storing data therein and
3 processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor, wherein the hardware
4 upgrade microprocessor accesses the memory and controls the processing circuitry to cause
5 the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the set top terminal via the upgrade
6 interface and wherein the processing circuitry includes a hardware upgrade modem for
7 providing communication between the hardware upgrade and one or more headends.

1 85. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering television programs through a
2 television program delivery system with menu selection of programs, comprising:
3 receiving subscriber input ~~at a hardware upgrade card through a set top terminal~~
4 ~~interface within~~ from a set top terminal, the set top terminal having a microprocessor and
5 ~~microprocessor instructions for prompting generation of menus; and~~
6 providing an upgrade interface signal path for providing communication with a
7 ~~microprocessor of the set top terminal~~ to the hardware upgrade card, the upgrade interface
8 being configured for coupling to an expansion card interface of the set top terminal for
9 ~~routing subscriber input provided by the~~ communicating with ~~microprocessor of the set top~~
10 ~~terminal and providing data to the microprocessor of the set top terminal;~~
11 ~~receiving, in a card receiving slot of the set top terminal, a hardware upgrade having~~
12 ~~an interface coupled to the set top terminal, the interface including an interface signal path~~
13 ~~for providing communication with a microprocessor of the set top terminal for routing input~~
14 ~~provided by the microprocessor of the set top terminal and providing data to the~~
15 ~~microprocessor of the set top terminal, providing~~ a hardware upgrade microprocessor,
16 coupled to the upgrade interface signal path, the hardware upgrade microprocessor being
17 ~~directly connected to~~ configured for communicating with the ~~microprocessor of the set top~~
18 ~~terminal~~ ~~[[by]]~~ through the upgrade interface signal path ~~when the hardware upgrade is~~
19 ~~inserted into a card receiving slot, memory, coupled to the hardware upgrade microprocessor,~~
20 ~~for storing data therein and processing circuitry, coupled to the hardware upgrade~~
21 ~~microprocessor, the hardware upgrade microprocessor accessing the memory and controlling~~
22 ~~the processing circuitry to cause the processing circuitry to provide enhanced functions to the~~
23 ~~set top terminal via the interface signal path , wherein the hardware upgrade microprocessor~~

- 24 provides enhanced functions to the set top terminal through communication with the set top
- 25 terminal using the upgrade interface.